National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

Identifying the public health benefits of livestock-dependent, agro-ecosystems under climate change

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Abstract:

As the demand for meat continues to grow in South Asia and Africa and access to communal sources of water and forage shrinks, intensification of small-scale livestock systems in peri-urban areas is expected to expand. In South East Asia, smallholder transition to livestock intensification has been transformative, increasing economic opportunities while also introducing new disease risks. While we have an understanding of the emerging disease burden from livestock intensification; we have just begun to understand the possible public health benefits of sustainable landscapes and the potential health savings accrued from disease avoidance. To date, few studies have attempted to quantify the health benefits attributable to sustainable agro-ecosystems, especially in regard to livestock systems. In this paper, I will examine what is needed to measure and communicate the public health benefits and cost-savings (from disease avoidance) of sustainable agro-ecosystems.

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Resource Description

Communication:

resource focus on research or methods on how to communicate or frame issues on climate change; surveys of attitudes, knowledge, beliefs about climate change

A focus of content

Communication Audience:

audience to whom the resource is directed

Public

Exposure :

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Ecosystem Changes, Food/Water Quality, Food/Water Security, Food/Water Security

Food/Water Quality: Pathogen

Food/Water Security: Livestock Productivity

Geographic Feature: ☑

resource focuses on specific type of geography

Rural

Geographic Location: ☑

resource focuses on specific location

Non-United States

Non-United States: Asia

Asian Region/Country: Other Asian Region

Other Asian Region: southeast asia

Health Co-Benefit/Co–Harm (Adaption/Mitigation): ☑

specification of beneficial or harmful impacts to health resulting from efforts to reduce or cope with greenhouse gases

A focus of content

Health Impact: ☑

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Infectious Disease

Infectious Disease: Foodborne/Waterborne Disease

Foodborne/Waterborne Disease: General Foodborne/Waterborne Disease

Mitigation/Adaptation: ☑

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Adaptation

Model/Methodology: ☑

type of model used or methodology development is a focus of resource

Cost/Economic, Exposure Change Prediction

Resource Type: ☑

format or standard characteristic of resource

Research Article

Timescale: ☑

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified

Vulnerability/Impact Assessment: ☑

resource focus on process of identifying, quantifying, and prioritizing vulnerabilities in a system

A focus of content